

Safety Central

Homeowners prevent fires when grilling

Each year, gas and charcoal grills are involved in thousands of home and outdoor fires. The National Fire Protection Association recommends safety tips to remember when grilling:

- Gas and charcoal grills are for outdoor use only. Indoors or in enclosed spaces such as tents, they pose a fire hazard and may expose occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.
- Almost half of all home charcoal grill fires and one-third of gas grill fires begin on exterior balconies or unenclosed porches. Position grills away from siding, deck railings, eaves and overhanging branches. Place the grill a safe distance from play areas and foot traffic, and keep children and pets at least three feet from the grill area.
- The chef should use long-handled grilling tools to avoid heat and flames when flipping burgers. Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.
- Most charcoal-grill fires start when grills are too close to flammable materials or grills are left unattended. Always monitor hot grills.
- Purchase the proper starter fluid, and store it out of reach of children and away from heat sources. Never add starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited, and never use any flammable liquid other than starter fluid.
- Never store propane gas cylinders in buildings or garages. If you store a gas grill inside during the winter, disconnect the cylinder and leave it outside.
- Nearly half of outdoor fires and one-third home of fires caused by gas-grills are due to leaks and breaks in the equipment. Check a grill's cylinder hose for leaks before using it. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose and watch for releasing bubbles. If you determine your grill has a gas leak and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.
- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.
- Only use equipment with the mark of an independent testing laboratory. Follow manufacturers' instructions on set-up and maintenance of the grill.

—National Fire Protection Association



Photo by Getty Images

EARTHTALK

More than 24 million children ride the bus to school and are regularly ex-posed to harmful diesel exhaust emissions. On average, school children who ride the bus spend an average of 90 minutes each weekday in transit, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

—The Environmental Magazine

TRICARE briefing planned today

Humana Military is sponsoring TRICARE briefing for Retirees personnel and their eligible family members today at 8:30 a.m. at the TRICARE Service Center conference room in Bldg. 162 at Fort McPherson.

No appointment is necessary.



*National Security
Personnel System*

How much pay increase can employees expect when promoted?

Under NSPS, a promotion is a temporary or permanent move to a position in a higher pay band.

- When employees receive a promotion, their pay increases by a minimum of 6 percent and, with management approval, may increase up to 20 percent.
- If the promotion is temporary, the employee's base salary reverts to that of the employee's permanent position upon termination of temporary promotion.

How will DoD insure the money is really paid out to the employees?

Defense Department components must certify pay pool funds are used only to compensate civilian employees.

- In fact, the law requires that the aggregate amount of money allocated for civilian compensation for organizations under NSPS cannot be less than the amount that would have been allocated under the existing GS system.

—Civilian Personnel Office

Job Fair coming

**The Army Career and Alumni Program
and**

**Army Community Services
have joined forces to sponsor a job fair
June 21 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at
The Commons at Fort McPherson.**

**This event is open to all.
Attendees should bring copies of their
resumé and dress professionally. More
than 50 companies will be available,
including two federal agencies.**

**To enter Fort McPherson, each person will need a valid photo
ID. If driving, provide the vehicle registration and proof of
insurance.**



The Georgia drought response level is two.

At drought response level two:

- Outdoor water use may occur Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays for odd-numbered addresses, while the even-numbered addresses use the alternate days.
on alternately-scheduled days between midnight and 10 a.m.
- Golf course fairways water use is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- Prohibitions include use of hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing and washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks and driveways, except when necessary for public health and safety.